# THREE KIOWA TEXTS

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0. Introduction
1. The Udder-angry Travelers-off
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0. The following texts are from the late Delos K. Lonewolf and from his stepson, Paul McKenzie, both of them native speakers of Kiowa. The Kiowa Indian language is now spoken at and about Anadarko, Oklahoma; an earlier home may have been several hundred miles northwest: Mooney traced back Kiowa tribal history to occupancy of a part of the region of the headwaters of the Missouri River, in what is now the vicinity of the Yellowstone National Park. Kiowa stories have no definite titles, but for purpose of ready identification titles have been put on these.

## 1. The Udder-angry Travelers-off

'æ'ho·w''ąe·'hey'dl ną' hæ·'tey^dl t'æ'p how'dlhey'dl. [*They-were-traveling-along and someone an-antelope killed.*] 'æ'pę·y'nę·y' nǫ ǩyæ'tæy'ǩi' tsąe'nhey'dl. [*They-were-butchering-it and the-chief came-up.*] t'æ'p pęy'ndω·'dey' bǫ·'whey^dl gω' ω·'zæy^ 'ęy'h·ω'hey'dl. [*The-antelope butchered he-saw and the-deer-udders he-took.*] nǫ' ǩi·'gʸæ' kω^dey' ǩyæ 'tæy'ǩi' tsąe'nhey'dl gω' 'ω·'zæy^ khǫ·'ɫω·'dey'. [*Then later the-other chief came-up and the-deer-udders he-wanted.*] nǫ' kω^dey' ǩyæ'tæy'ǩi' "hǫ·'nęy'," tǫ·'wnęy^, hǫ'n 'ǫ·'nw^hey'dl. [*But the-other chief "no," he-said, not he-granted.*] nǫ' kω^dey': " 'ω'dey'p'gω' nǫ''ǫ^," tǫ·'wnęy^. [*And the-other-one: "Half give-me," he-said.*] nǫ' kω'dey': "hǫ·'nęy'," tǫ·'wnęy^. [*And the-other-one "no," he said.*] nęy'gω' į·'dey' sw̰''w·'dey'hyey'dl. [*And-already this-one was-angry.*] gω' hey'gω' 'w̰'gω^dey' ǩyąe·'hyow'p gω' mąe·'yo'wp te·y'phωy' 'ę'ymtow^tω' gω' hey'gω' 'ęy'mho·w'ɫæ'dlhey'dl. [*And now his-own men and women all he-gathered and now they-traveled-off apart.*]

'ɔ'hyω'gω' hæ'yæ' 'æ'bæ·'kyæ'dey'. [*Those-ones somewhere they-went.*] mǫ'n hæ'gʸæ' 'æ'ɫω'. [*Maybe somewhere they-are-staying.*] 'ɔ·'zæ'ɫω·'how'p 'ąe'n 'ę'ymkhǫ^mǫ'. [*The-udder-angry-travelers-off indeed they-are called.*] hæ·'gyæ' 'æ'tʰω·'dey^ Kωy'gu'. [*Somewhere there-are-staying Kiowas.*] 'o'wtey'hω·' gyæ'hęy^tey'dω'. [*That-is-all that-there-is-to-the-story.*]

## 2. Seyndey and the Coyote

sęy'ndey' 'ąe·'hey^dl nǫ' tsæ·'gω ki·'dey^. [*Seyndey was-traveling-along and the-prairie-dogs were-encamped.*] hey'gω' ω'p'kω beyto·w'dω·' dey'ęy'm 'ey'sæ't'de·y'dey^. [*Wherever there their-houses were they-sat-sunning-themselves.*] nęygω' sęy'ndey' tǫ·w'nęy^, "hąe···', sęy'gį·'dǫ'. [*Whereupon Seyndey said, "Hae···', nephews.*] hǫ'ndey' thąey'męy'dl bæ'ku·'yω'; ω'p'kω'thω'p hǫ'ngω' 'ęy'myæy'gų'nmǫ' gω' gyæ'yæy'bæ''ædldæ'dω'. [*Seemingly lonely ye-sit; away-from-here others are-dancing and are-enjoying-themselves.*] hǫ'ndey' thąey'męy'dl bæ'ku·'yω'. [*Seemingly lonely ye-sit.*] bæ''ąe·' nǫ' bey'yæy'gų'n; thąey'męy'dl bæ'ku·'yω'. [*Come-ye and let-us-dance-with-merriment; lonely ye-sit.*] bey'yæy'gų'n." [*Let-us-dance-with-merriment."*]

hey'gω' 'ey'tsǫ·'tsąe'ndǫ·'mę·y' tsæ·'gω'. [*Then they-came-running, the-prairie-dogs.*] "hæ·'tsow', hω' hey'gω' te·y' bæ'dω'?" tǫ·w'nęy^ sęy'ndey'. ["*Now, interrogative already all ye-are-here?" said Seyndey.*] "hω·', hey'gω' te·y' 'ey'dω'," 'ey'tǫ·w'nęy^. ["*Yes, already all we-are-here," they-said.*]

" 'ąe·'khow^, bæ't'khow'mǫ·'how'!" tǫ·w'nęy^, "nęy' hey'tω'gu·' 'æ'bæ·'t'ω' kω^dl pω'dlkhω^thǫy' dey't'æ'dltω'," gω'

hey'gω' gyæ''æy^hyey'dl. ["*Now, be-ye-ready! he-said, "but wait-ye, I-have-to-go, you-know, a-drumstick I-shall-cut," and thereupon he-went.*] hey'gω' 'ω'k'kω' bey't'to·w'dφ·'meyˆdey''ęy'm bey't'tæ·'deyˆ. [*Now there wherever-their-homes-were they-were-staying.*] hey'gω' tsæ'nhey'dl gω' 'æ·'thφy' 'ey'do·w'deyˆ, gω' hey'gω' 'ey'kω'dæ'dlphφ·'dω·'pey'hey'dl. [*Now he-returned and a-drumstick he-had, and now he-had-them-stand-in-a-circle.*]

"bæ'kω'dæ'dlphφ·'," tφ·wneyˆ, ney'gω' 'ey'kω'dæ'dlphφ·'hey'dl. ["*Stand-ye-in-a-circle," he-said, now they-stood-in-a-circle.*] syφ'nhey'dldey' hey'gω' 'o·w' hφw'nphφ'yhey'dl. [*The-smallest-one now then he-placed-at-the-end.*] " 'æ·'khowˆ," tφ·w'neyˆ, "dey'dω·'pæyˆdey'tω' nφ' hey'gω' bey'guˆn. ["*Now," he-said, "when-I-sing then already ye-must-dance.*] hey'gω' 'ω'p'kω' bæ'de·y'dey''ęy'm bey'guˆn. [*Wherever there ye-are-standing dance-ye.*] hey'gω' dey'dω·'p'æyˆdey'tω' nφ' hey'gω' 'ωphω·' bey'guˆn — 'ω'p'kω' bæ'de·y'yω'dey''ęy'm. [*Now when-I-start-singing, then already there dance-ye—there where-ye-are-standing.*"]

'æ·'khowˆ, 'ω·'gω' 'ęy'mdω·'tω''æ·'hey'dldey'tsow' hey'gω' t'ω'k'kω't 'ey'guˆ'æ·'hey'dl. [*Now, he while-he-was-singing already over-the-head he-had-been-hitting-them.* ] k'æ''φw'mφyˆ hφw'nde·y'de·y' dey'bey't·hω·' gyæ'tæ''ætsφ'tω·'be·y'. [*Little-One standing-at-the-end in-the-meantime had-been-squint-watching.*] hey'gω' sęy'ndey' kuˆhae·' phey'hey'dl nęy'gω' tęy'mbω·'dey'hyey'dl. [*Now Seyndey was-going-to-hit-him when he-scampered-off.*] nęy'gω' guˆhey'dl gω' go·w'bey'hyey'dl. [*Now he-struck-at-him, but he-missed-him.*]

"gφ'!" tφ·'neyˆ, "hφ'ndey' tsęy'ntow'dlφ·'gω'! ["*Go!" he-said, "something palatable!"*] "gφ'! gφ'!" ["*Go! go!"*] nφ' khow'deyˆdey' sφw'ndφ·w'gey' bey't·hω·' gyæ'thæˆdldφ·'mę·y'dey''ęy''ęy'mgu'nhey'dl. [*And suddenly in-the-grass in-the-meantime where-there-was-a-hole he-entered.*] "hæ···'; hφ'ndey' tsęy'ntow'dlφ·'gω'!" poy' 'ωyˆ tφ·w'ne·y'. [*Hæ···'; something palatable!" now again he-said.*] "ney' hæ·'tsow''æ'dl; guyˆgω' ki''æ·'bω' hey'gω' 'ey't'bφ·w'nyiˆtω·' tsæ·'gω'. ["*But why-care; posthumous people still will-be-seeing prairie-dogs.*]

'æ·'khowˆ, hey'gω' 'ey'towˆtey'hyey'dl gω' 'ey'hi·'hey'dl, gω' hey'gω' 'ey'ki·'ku·'hey'dl. [*Now, then he-gathered-them-together and he-carried-them, and now he-built-a-fire.*] hey'gω' 'ey'tsęy'nω·'they'psω·'hey'dl. [*Now he-put-them-under-hot-coals.*] hey'gω' 'ęy'msω·'hey'dl gω' hφ'ndow' tφw'heyˆdl nφ' 'o·w'deyˆ mφ·'thφw'tsφ·w'hi' 'æ·'heyˆdl. [*Then he-sat-down and by-chance glanced-up and there the-coyote was-coming-along.*] thφ·w'dey' 'æ'hφ'ndey' kω'dlkow'p'te·y', gω' 'ey'hyęy'mde'y'æ·'hey'dl. [*His-leg with-some-sticky-substance was-covered, and he-was-limping.*]

sęy'ndey' tφ·w'neyˆ, "'æ···', bey'hyę·y'dey'!" [*Seyndey said, "'æ···', go-away!"*]

nφ' mφ·'thφw'tsφ·w'hi' tφ·w'ney, "hφ'ndey' thφ·w'sey' bæ'tgu'ntω·' nφ' gætzęy'mts'æˆdlyi·'tω'." [*But the-coyote said, "Whatever bones you-discard then I-shall-gnaw-on."*]

"nφ' bey'hę·y'dey'! ["*But go-away!*] 'ɔ·'gω' 'æ'khω''φ'n ney' gæ't.hęy'mbæ'sæ't." [*Myself poor now I-provided-for-myself."*]

tso'dlhω·' hæ''ow'tey't'tow' thę·y'dædω·'pey'hyey'dl. [*Thus several-times he-requested-him-to-leave.*]

"hφ'ndey' thφ·w'sey' bæ't'gu'ntω·', nφ' gyæ'tzęy'mts'æˆdlyi·'tω·'," poy' 'ωyˆ tφ·w'ne·y' mφ·'thφw'tsφ·w'hi'. ["*Whatever bones you-discard, I shall-gnaw-on," now again said the-coyote.*]

ney'gω' sęy'ndey' tφ·w'neyˆ, "nφ' 'æ·'khowˆ; bey'ts'æ'ndey'. [*Then Seyndey said, "Now what-do-you-say let-us-race.*] hæ'gæyˆ bey'tho·w'dey'tω·' gω' hey'gω' bey't.hæˆn." [*Whoever wins them then will-eat-them."*]

mφ·'thφw'tsφ·w'hi' tφ·w'neyˆ, "thφ·w'dey' 'ęy'khow'p; hæˆbæ' ts'æ'ngyæ'tsow' 'æ'dω'." [*The-coyote said, "My leg is-paining-me; in-anything but-a-racing-condition I-am."*]

nǫ' sęy'ndey' tǫ·w'nęy^, "nǫ' ts'o·w' 'ǫnkωy^ gyæ't.hæ't'phæy'tω'." [*But Seyndey said, "But a-stone on-my-ankle I-shall-tie."*]

"nǫ' hæ''oy' bæ't.'æy'?" tǫ·w'nęy^ mǫ·'thǫw'tsǫ·whị'. ["*But how-far shall-we-go?" said the-coyote.*]

"nǫ' 'ę·y'hω·' hey'gω' bæ't.'æy' gω' 'o·w'pe' yi·'kyæ' pi·'gω' 'ęy'mbæ khoy'dey'. ["*Well right-there now we-shall-start and there-along 4 hills we-shall-go turningly.*] hæ'gyæy^ bæ't'æ'mtsæ'nt'ω·' gi'gω' bey't.hæ^n," tǫ·w'nęy^ sęy'ndey'. [*Whoever arrives-ahead then will-eat-them-up," said Seyndey.*]

nǫ' mω·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hị' tǫ·w'nęy^, "hæ·' thǫ·w'dey' 'ęy'khow'p nęy' bæ't'khow''æy'." [*And the-coyote said, "Hæ·', my-leg is-paining-me, but let's-do-start."*]

hey'gω' 'ęy'nmǫ·'how'dlhey'dl nęy'gω' sęy'ndey' to·w'nęy^, 'æ·'khow^! bæ't'khow''æy'," nǫ' hey'gω' 'ęyhæ·'pey'hyey'dl. [*Then they-go-ready and Seyndey said, "Now, let-us-start," and now they-started.*]

sęy'ndey' hæ'bey' gǫw^m gω'bǫ·w'hey^dl nǫ' mǫ·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hị' 'o·w'dey^ thǫ·w'dey' 'ǫ'mǫ·'hey'dl kω't 'æ·'yæ'hæ·'pey''æ·'hey'dl. [*Seyndey at-one-time back glanced and the-coyote there his-leg hurt from-time-to-time he-was-carrying-it.*] sęy'ndey' hey'gω' phi·'gu'p ko·w'beyhyey'dl, nǫ' mǫ·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hị' hæ·''oy' bω·'dey'hyey'dl phi·'yω^. [*Seyndey then over-the-hill disappeared, and the-coyote finally appeared over-the-hill.*] tǫw'hey^dl nǫ' sęy'ndey' hey'gω' yω'gu't'phi·'guy' ko·w'bey'hyey'dl, nǫ' hey'gω' 'ǫnt̄ey'p tęy'mbω·'dey'hyey'dl—

'æ'mhǫ'ndey'thǫ·w'khow'p.hị^yị'dey'.

[*Looked now Seyndey now over-the-second-hill he-looked-back, and already turntail he-had-disappeared—the-one-whose-leg was-supposed to-be-paining.*] nǫ'sęy'ndey' 'ǫgω'dlthω·'dey' phi·'yω·' p'e·y'dey'hyey'dl gω' tǫw'hey^dl nǫ' mǫ·'thow'tsǫ·w'hị' hey'gω' 'ωp'kω'thω'p 'ǫ'nt̄ey'p kǫw^mp'æ·'dædω·'hi·'hey'dl. [*Then Seyndey over-the-next hill appeared and looked and the-coyote now away turntail was-going-as-fast - as - he - could.*] sęy'ndey' 'ęy'mki·''ωthæ·'dey'hyey'dl, "Hæ··· '! 'ęy'm'ω·'phǫ'!; ts'o·w' 'ǫ'nkωy^ gyæ'tyæ'dltω'." [*Seyndey hollered, "Hæ···'! Stop-a-while! the-stone on-my-ankle I-shall-untie."*]

nǫ' mǫ·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hị' hey'gω' thǫw'gω·' tsæ'nhey'dl 'ω·'gω' tsæ·'gω' 'ey'tsęy'nǫ·'they'psω·'dey'dey''ęy', gω' hey'gω' 'ey'khu^dlhey'dl gω' 'æ'pω·'dley^ tsæy'męy'dl. [*Now the-coyote already there had-arrived himself the-prairie-dogs where-they-were-in-the-hot-coals there, and now pulling-them-out then he-was-eating-them hurriedly.*] te·y'phωy' 'ey'-hæ̨nhey'dl. [*All he-ate-up.*] thǫ.w'sey' hey'gω' gyæ''ωy^'ω·'they'psω·'hey'dl, gω' hey'-gω' gyæ''æ y^hyey'dl. [*The-bones then he-replaced-in-the-hot-coals and then he-went-his-way.*]

sęy'ndey' hey'gω' tsæ'nhey'dl. [*Seyndey then arrived.*] "Hæ···, hey'gω' mǫ'n 'ey'-tsęy'ndω'," tǫ·w'nęy^ dey'tsow' pæ·' khu^dlhey'dl, nǫ' thǫ·w'sey'gω'ki' 'ey'dǫ·'mey^! [*Hæ···, already surely they-must-be-cooked," he-said also one he-pulled-out, but only-a-bone it-was!*] "hey'gω' 'ey'tsęy'ndω'," poy' 'ωy^ tǫ·w'hey'dl. ["*Already they-are-done," now again he-said.*] cruy^kω' thǫ·w'sey'bω' poy' 'ey'khu^dlhey'dl gω' tǫ·w'nęy^, "tsęy'ndæ'-dey't!" ["*Tsęy'ndæ'dey't!*"] poy' guy^kω' 'ey' khu^dlhey'dl gω' poy', "tsęy'ndæ'dey't!" [*Now another-one he-pulled-out and now, "Tsęy'ndæ'dey't!"*] 'çy^ tǫ·w'hey'dl. [*Again he said-it.*] "cryæ'tsęy'ndω·' dow' ki·'hę·y' gyæ'dω·'," ǫ·dey^, bey't.hω·' hey'gω' mω·'-thǫw'tsǫ·w'hị' te·y' tsæ·'gω' 'ω'thæ^ndǫ·'me·y' gω' thǫ·w'sey' dey'ki' 'æ'n 'ω·'they'psω·'de·y'. ["*It-is-overdone for without-meat it-is," he-thought, not-knowing already the-coyote all the-prairie-dogs had-eaten-up and the-bones merely indeed had-left-buried-in-the-coals.*]

"hǫ'ndey' kho·w'bey'dl 'ęy''ǫ·'mę·y'," tǫ·w'nęy^ sęy'ndey'. ["*Something dirty he-did-me," said Seyndey.*] 'ęy'mhω^hey'dlgω'. [*He-discovered-the-situation.*] "hǫ'ndey' mǫ'n 'ey'tsęy'nt'ow'dlǫ·'nǫ'!" ["*Something surely so-palatable!*"]

hey'gω' 'ęy'mgω' mǫ·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hị' 'æ'-nkǫ·''ǫ·'ndǫ·'mę·y' nǫ' hey'gω' sęy'ndey'

'ᵩ'nhi·'hey'dl. [*Now thereabouts the-coyote left-his-greasy-tracks now already Seyndey was-tracking-him.*] 'ę·y'gω' 'ǫωhæ^ bow'p'-pey'dę·y'tso·w'de·y', gω' ko·w'dow' the·y'-de·y'. [*This-fellow there was-taking-a-belly-full-nap, and very asleep-he-was.*] sęy'ndey' hey'gω' de·y'dey^ gω' 'ᵩ'dey^, "hæ'yæ' gyæ'hæy''ᵩmtω·'?" [*Seyndey now stood and thought, "What shall-I-do-with-him?"*] hey'gω' ts'o·w' hω·'hey'dl gω' mᵩ·'k̦ᵩ^n 'ω'sǫ·w'nęy^, gω' mᵩ·' tsǫ·w' 'ω''ᵩ'mhey^dl. [*Now a-stone he-picked-up, and his-nose he-began-to-file, and like an-awl he-made-it.*] "hyæ·^!" tǫ·w'-nęy^, "bey'hæ^! bæ'bæ·' 'oy'gω' thǫ·w' dω·'-dey''ęy; bey'thǫ·w''ω·'kω'sᵩ'mbǫ·w'." ["*Hyæ·!" he-said, "get-up! let-us-go there the-water where-is; we-shall-look-at-ourselves-in-it."*]

nęy'gω' 'ęy'bæ·'hey'dl, 'ęy'nthǫ·''ω·'kω'sᵩ'-mbǫw'tω·'dey'pe·y'dow'. [*Now they-went, to look-at-themselves-in-the-water.*] nęy'gω' sęy'-ndey' tǫ·w'nęy^, "'æ·'khow^, 'æ'm bey'khow'-thǫ·w''ᵩ·'kω'sᵩ'mbǫ·w', nᵩ' hey'gω' nᵩ·' k̦i·'-gyæ'." [*Now Seyndey said, "Now, you look-at-yourself-in-the-water, and then I next."*] mᵩ·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hi' hey'gω' dæ^dlbω·'dey'hyey'dl gω' 'ęy'mbǫ·w'hey^dl. [*The-coyote now stuck-out-his-full-head-over-the-water and saw-himself.*] 'ǫ·'gω' 'ęy'mpe·-y'hyey^dl gω' gǫ^m pe·y'ko·w'bey'hyey'dl. [*Himself he-frightened and backward fell.*[1]]

sęy'ndey' tsω^ tsæ·'gω' 'ey''ᵩ'mhey^dldey'-pe·y'dow', 'ę·y'hω·'' æ'dl hey'tω' k̦æ·'hi''ęy'm 'ey'sę·y'thæ'mdω', k̦ω't 'ωy'gω·' thæ^dlgu' 'ey't'kω''ey't'gu'nmᵩ' mᵩ·' hωy^gω' hæ'gyæ' 'ey'ki'dldey''ęy' 'æ''ᵩ'mgyæ''ęy'. [*Seyndey thus to-the-prairie-dogs having-done, even-nowadays now toward-anyone they-are-suspicious, indeed there into-the-holes they-fleeing-enter us whenever close to-where-they-live one-gets.*] 'æ·'khow^, poy' 'ω·'gω' sęy'ndey' mᵩ·'thǫw'tsǫ·w'hi' mᵩ·'k̦ᵩ^n 'ω'sǫ·w'hey^-dldey'pe·y'dow', 'ę·y'hω·''æ'dl hey'tω' mᵩ·'-k̦æ'n mᵩ·'thǫwtsǫ·w'hyow'p mᵩ·' tsǫ·w'gω' bey't'dω'. [*Now, now he, Seyndey, the-coyote his-nose filed-because, nowadays now noses of-coyotes like awls are.*]

tsω^ 'æ'n 'ęy'mthᵩ·'tey't'tω'. [*Thus indeed they-tell-the-story.*]

[1] This is the idiom for saying that he fell dead.

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